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Petition against pensions for murderers to be presented

OTTAWA More than 20,000 Canadians have signed a petition that's expected to be presented to Parliament today, demanding that jailed murderers like Clifford Olson not be given federal income benefits.

Kevin Gaudet, national director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation will be presenting the petition on behalf of its signatories, some of whom include family members of Olson's victims.

Olson was convicted of murdering 11 children and teenagers in the Vancouver area in the early 1980s.

He and other elderly prisoners can collect roughly $1,000 a month in old age and low-income pensions. **METRO VANCOUVER**

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World pg 6
Afghan girls ill at school

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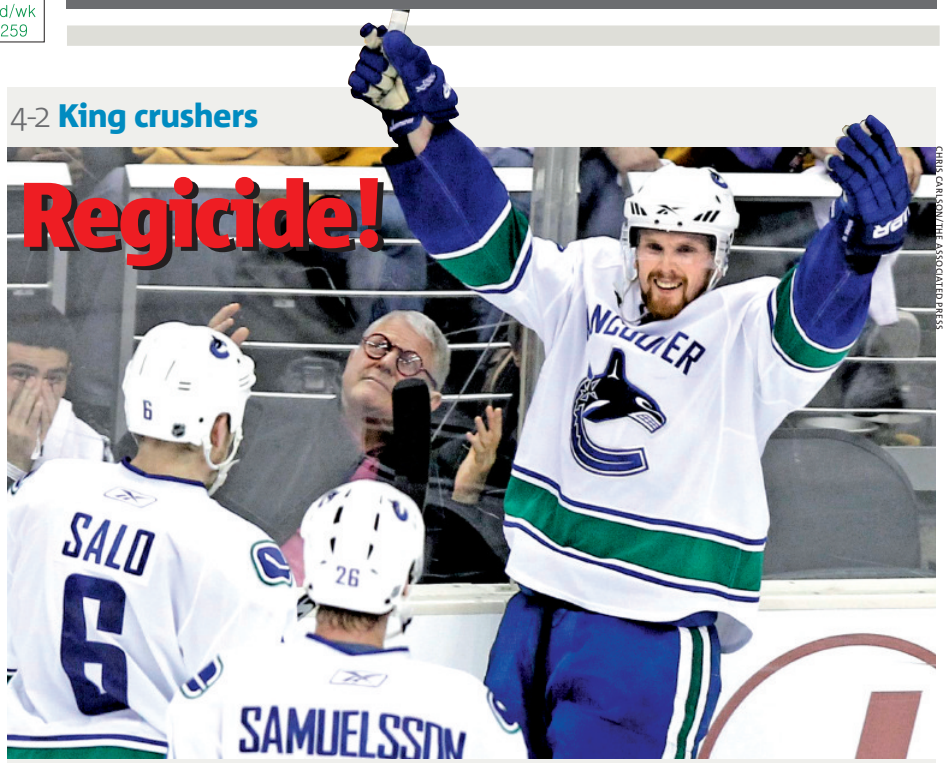

CHRIS GARRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vancouver Canucks left wing Daniel Sedin, right, celebrates his game-winning goal against the Los Angeles Kings last night with Sami Salo, left, and Mikael Samuelsson. The third-period goal in Game 6 advanced the Canucks past the first round of the NHL hockey Western Conference playoffs. Vancouver won 4-2. Coverage, page 10.

Boobquake rally set to rock Vancouver today

Display part of international rebuttal to Iranian cleric's remarks

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Up to 100 women are expected to show off their cleavage outside the Vancouver Art Gallery this afternoon for Boobquake, a cheeky international event celebrating our right to immodesty.

Boobquake was launched last week by an Indiana student, Jennifer McCreight, 22, in response to an Iranian cleric who claimed earthquakes are caused by women who dress in a suggestive manner.

"Many women who do not dress modestly ... lead young men astray, corrupt their chastity and spread adultery in society, which increases earthquakes," Hojatoleslam Kazem Sedighi told Iranian media on April 16.

He is Tehran's acting Friday prayer leader.

Since then, tens of thousands of people have joined the rebuttal campaign to show some skin today, including Angela Squires, organizer of Boobquake Vancouver.

"I thought, 'how ridiculous,'" said Squires, who will be showing off her legs instead of her cleavage because she's had a double mastectomy.

"People — especially (those) who have a perceived authority — are coming out with ridiculous statements that are not necessarily questioned. And it's important for all of us to question what comes at us."

Squires is organizing a scientific experiment, inviting women to the VAG at 4 p.m. to show off some skin in an attempt to provoke seismic activity.

Seismometers will be there to record shakes.

"It's a celebration of our rights and choice," Squires said. "The idea is not to be indecent, but to ... (have) fun."

Amanda Wanner, a student at the University of B.C., will be attending the event.

"I love that (this is) a light-hearted way to deal with a serious issue," Wanner said. "It's all about (exposing) only what you're comfortable with."

McCreight wrote a note on her blog, blaghag.com, that she can't believe how quickly the cause has grown.

"It started as a silly joke that I hurriedly fired off since I was about to miss the beginning of House," McCreight wrote. "I never thought it would get the attention it did."

"I'm a firm believer that when someone says something so stupid and hateful, serious discourse isn't going to accomplish anything — sometimes light-hearted mockery is worthwhile."

Seismic test

• The official Boobquake Facebook page had roughly 33,700 fans yesterday afternoon.

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SCANLIFE

Local

Renowned authors speaking tonight

Two of Canada's most celebrated authors, Yann Martel, left, (Life of Pi) and Anosh Irani (The Song of Kahunsha), will be at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver tonight for readings and dialogue. Tickets are available online at kaymeekcentre.com.

METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Movies showtimes, trailers reviews and purchase tickets at **metronews.ca/movies**

Immigration Guidy Mamann on how proposed reforms to help live-in nannies may end up hurting them at **metronews.ca/immigration**

Lotteries

Friday, April 23
Lotto Max: 8, 11, 16, 21, 24, 28 & 41 Bonus 37
Extra: 2, 55, 64, 85
Saturday, April 24
Lotto 6/49: 3, 10, 14, 36, 38 & 40 Bonus 23
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Extra: 3, 16, 52, 64
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Carr items offer insight into artist

KEEPSAKES A Boy Scout diary, a hand-painted Christmas card and an uncashed cheque have revealed the eccentricities and the humour of Emily Carr, one of Canada's most beloved artists.

The items, which are being auctioned in Vancouver May 26, are from Carr's lean years, between 1917 and the late 1920s, when she ran a boarding house, was breeding dogs, made pottery and hooked rugs to survive. She also stopped painting.

They were discovered by Peter Rodd, whose father Cyril — also known as Twinkie — did odd jobs for Carr as a teenager, including chopping wood, mowing the lawn and walking the animals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HEFFEL FINE ART AUCTION HOUSE

Emily Carr's whimsical interpretation of her pet monkey, Woo, in a card sent to her friend Cyril (Twinkie) Rodd.

Along with two pieces of pottery made by Carr were a hand-painted Christmas card from her and a 1927 uncashed cheque written to Twinkie from Carr for $2.50.

The family took its find to the Heffel Fine Art Auction House, which has a reputation for selling Carr art.

A cheque for $2.50 would have been a lot of money for a teenager at a time when a haircut cost 25 cents.

Rodd believes his father had sympathy for Carr's financial situation.

"I think that's why my father never cashed the cheque, because he felt she was poor. I don't think he had any foresight about her becoming as famous as she has." THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MAYOR Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts is recovering at home after a serious car crash. She suffered broken ribs and bruises in Friday night's incident. Watts and her husband, Brian, who was also in the car, are expected to make a full recovery.

SEX ASSAULT Police are looking for a man who sexually assaulted a nine-year-old girl in her Surrey home. Following the assault Friday morning, investigators searched the 10,300 block of 149th Street for a man in his early 30s of medium build and average height.

WILDFIRE The biggest wildfire in B.C. so far this season, a 212-hectare blaze near Williams Lake, appears to have been sparked by the Canadian military during weapons training in the area.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

NPA mulling new direction

Name change, backing of party-wide policy possible

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The political organization that has ruled Vancouver for the majority of the past seven decades is considering tinkering with its name — as well as potentially changing its fundamental nature.

At its annual general meeting Wednesday, Vancouver's Non-Partisan Association is voting on whether to review the NPA name and recommend some alternatives (while preferably keeping the NPA initials).

"It's kind of an anachronism ... but on the other hand, there is a lot of history," said NPA president Michael Davis.

"Most of what you see (in Vancouver) was done under the NPA watch. I hesitate to change things too quickly because I think that is a fairly successful record for any party."

It is the second motion, however, that could have the largest impact on the NPA, which has ruled municipal politics for 51 of the last 69 years.

It would direct the NPA executive to set policy for its candidates and potential voters.

The NPA, explained Davis, is a nominating committee — not technically a political party — and therefore leaves policy up to individual candidates.

The lack of party policy makes a cohesive, tight campaign difficult, he said, but added that he believes it results in better leadership.

Get a taste of Vancouver with Dine Out

Dine Out Vancouver starts today and runs until May 6. Participating restaurants are offering three-course meals at $18, $28 and $38. Reservations can be made at tourismvancouver.com. METRO VANCOUVER

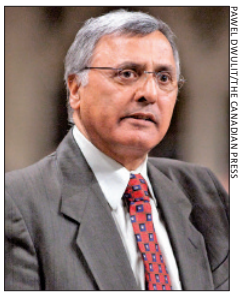
Dosanjh threats prompt RCMP probe

THREATS The RCMP is investigating threats made to Vancouver Liberal MP Ujjal Dosanjh on a Facebook page, which suggested he be shot.

The comment has since been taken down from the page, which was called "Ujjal Dosanjh is a Sikh Traitor."

Dosanjh, former premier of British Columbia, is an outspoken opponent of Sikh extremism.

Last week, an organizer of an annual Vaisakhi parade in Surrey told a local radio host that Dosanjh ought to bring his own security to the event.



PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ujjal Dosanjh

The organizer later apologized for the comment, which was interpreted by some as a threat.

Controversy has surrounded that parade for several years because it features and glorifies images of Sikhs who have been responsible for violent acts.

In 1985, Dosanjh was badly beaten in an attack because of comments he made condemning Sikh extremism.

METRO VANCOUVER

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Vancouver losing its tree canopies: Group

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The majestic tree canopies that shade Vancouver's streets are being frittered away, warns a local heritage group.

For the first time, the city's historic street trees have been included in Heritage Vancouver's annual list of endangered heritage sites.

"If you look at the great cities around the world," said Donald Luxton, president of Heritage Vancouver, "one of the things that helps define them are boulevards and canopies — and we're losing ours."

The issue, Luxton said, is that when trees get old and need to be replaced, they're cut down and replaced with smaller, ornamental trees — "stunted dwarfs" that lack the size and character of the original. He points to Victory Square, where several of the city's oldest and largest bigleaf maples were cut down and were not replaced.

The Park Board, he said, needs a one-to-one replacement strategy so that when trees are taken down they are replaced by one of the same species.

Vancouver's Park Board office was closed yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

"You lose one tree, you don't really notice it ... by the time we notice, as the public, it's going to be too late," Luxton said.

"We think it's a huge issue in terms of heritage character of the city and it's just not being discussed."

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Two men walk past a bigleaf maple stump at Victory Square in Vancouver yesterday. A heritage group lists mature street trees among the city's most endangered heritage sites.

Ground broken on home for soldiers, first responders

VETERANS When Tony Spiess returned from Canada's peacekeeping mission in Croatia in 1993, he was fresh off having witnessed genocide and surviving a firefight with heavily armed Croatian troops.

"Coming home ... there was absolutely nothing. I was fighting, and then a week later I was walking the streets of Vancouver," said Spiess, who left the forces in 1997.

Only through the Veterans Transition Program, funded by the Royal Canadian Legion with help from the University of British Columbia, was Spiess able to reintegrate into civilian life and deal with his psychological scars.

Now 40 and a professional firefighter, Spiess was in New Westminster when ground was broken this weekend for Honour House, a 10-bedroom, 10-bath home for soldiers and first-responders to stay for free while seeking medical or psychological treatment.

"I was fighting, and then a week later I was walking the streets of Vancouver."
Tony Speiss, former peacekeeper

The facility, which will also house the Veterans Transition Program, has received no public funding.

The multimillion-dollar project is the work of former soldiers, legion members, the area business community and a former Vancouver Parks Board member.

Allan De Genova said he was inspired by the story of Trevor Greene, a soldier who was severely injured in an axe attack while meeting with villagers in Afghanistan.

A week ago, they secured the $2.3-million property. The house should open its doors by Remembrance Day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

DIESEL SPILL Absorbent booms and pads have been placed in parts of the Nicomekl River in Surrey to stop a diesel spill from spreading. The Surrey Fire Department is investigating the spill that occurred near the city's border with Langley. It originated from a nearby industrial area, according to Battalion Chief Dave Rivett. He added the Environment Ministry will investigate the cause and severity of the spill.

HOUSING Vancouver city council has approved an option to divide the affordable housing at the Olympic Village between social housing and essential workforce housing rented at market rates. Construction on the affordable housing at the Olympic Village went $46 million over budget and teachers have been added to police, firefighters and nurses as essential workforce.

ABDUCTION Police are asking for witnesses to an attempted abduction in Chilliwack. A 17-year-old girl was grabbed from behind by a man on Vedder River Bridge Road at 2 p.m. on Saturday. She broke free and ran to a nearby home to call police. METRO NEWS SERVICES

ATVs may have sparked Alberta fire: Mayor
People riding all-terrain vehicles may have accidentally sparked a wildfire in the tinder-dry bush near Whitecourt, Alta., which threatened homes in the area, the mayor said Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Fight's on for Galloway visit

Supporters of British politician George Galloway planned to urge Federal Court today to undo Canada's entry ban on the outspoken MP. An alliance of peace groups, backed by free-speech advocates, maintain the ban, on the basis that Galloway supported terrorism, was uncalled for and unconstitutional. Galloway was to make a four-city speaking tour in March 2009, but Canadian immigration officials declared him inadmissible. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Social justice and environmental groups march peacefully through Halifax yesterday to voice their opposition to this week's meeting of G8 development ministers. The three-day ministerial meeting begins today.

G8 gets heated reception in Halifax

PROTEST Close to 300 protesters marched through downtown Halifax yesterday, peacefully demonstrating against this week's meeting of G8 development ministers.

The G8 welcoming committee, organized by a coalition of social, environmental and student groups, demonstrated outside the Westin Hotel, where ministers from some of the most prosperous nations in the world will stay while discussing maternal health and development over the next three days.

"We are here both to provide a critique of their agenda as far as development is concerned, but also the institution that is the G8 and their social and economic policy," said Kyle Buott of the Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council. "Their policies around bank deregulation, unfair trade, around privatization, and around outsourcing are wrecking the lives of millions of workers and people across the world."

The peaceful protest was punctuated by a few tense moments. Halifax Regional Police — some on horseback or motorcycles — kept a heavy presence and a close eye on the protesters as they made their way from Victoria Park.

ALEX BOUTILIER/ FOR METRO CANADA

Jaffer associate to comment on dealings

A giant dryer that zaps the moisture out of kitchen scraps and even human waste, and transforms it into odourless fuel, seemed like just the type of renewal energy project that Rahim Jaffer and his partner were looking to work with.

But how exactly they handled their interest in the BioDryer technology, and other green projects they were dabbling with, is at the crux of the controversy surrounding the duo's company.

A would-be business associate of Jaffer's, Nazim Gillani, will weigh in on Wednesday about what he knows about Jaffer's business and alleged lobbying.

Gillani will be expected to tell a House of Commons committee that he believed the former MP Jaffer was selling lobbying-type services through his firm.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lobbying act

• Two important areas of the Lobbying Act are at play. In one section, the act says that if you communicate with public office holders about the "awarding of any grant, contribution or other financial benefit" by the federal government, you're lobbying. But in another area, the act also says you're not lobbying if you're making general inquiries about the terms of conditions of programs.

Author says Quebec is uncomfortable for Muslims.
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All eyes on Oda as summit tackles women's issues, aid

HEALTH Defining a maternal and child health strategy for developing countries is the least of the G8's challenges on the aid front.

At a key meeting of G8 development ministers in Halifax this week, Canada's Bev Oda is confident she'll find enough common ground to announce progress on Prime Minister Stephen Harper's signature G8 agenda item.

"Development ministers are going to agree on a way forward," said Oda's spokeswoman Jessica Fletcher. Oda is also expected to add some clarity to Canada's own approach to improving the lives of mothers and their young children in poor countries, amidst criticism Ottawa is trying to sidestep inclusion of abortion and family planning.

More problematic, however, is Canada's goal to make sure countries are living up to their expensive promises of the past.

The meeting, to prepare for the June summit in Huntsville, Ont., comes at a time when government funding is in short supply around the world, and the very case for any international aid at all is being called into question by a growing pile of publications and high-profile critics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories want to extend voting period

POLITICS The Harper government wants to give Canadians more time to vote in federal elections.

Steven Fletcher, minister of state for democratic reform, will re-introduce legislation to increase the number of advance polls. The Expanded Voting Opportunities Act would amend election laws by adding two more advance polling days during elections. Those extra days would fall on the two Sundays before an election. The bill would also open all 65,000 regular polling stations on the Sunday before election day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fire causes havoc in Manila

A huge fire sweeping through a shantytown outside the Philippine capital has destroyed about 300 houses and left about 7,000 people homeless. Metropolitan Manila Fire Marshal Pablito Cordeta says about 200 fire trucks were called to the fire, which started at mid-afternoon yesterday and was still burning at nightfall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Bull gets revenge on matador

One of Spain's most popular matadors was seriously injured in Mexico when a 500-kilogram bull gored him in the groin and hoisted him into the air, causing major blood loss, his manager said yesterday. The bull's horn penetrated 10 centimetres into the groin of Jose Tomas, left, and punctured a vein and an artery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Hampshire **Not-so-high horse**

JIM COLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dr. Rachel Wagner holds a ruler next to her three-day-old pinto stallion, named Einstein, yesterday in Barnstead, N.H. The diminutive horse could lay claim to the world record for the most lightweight foal, weighing six pounds and measuring 14 inches in height at birth.

80 Afghan schoolgirls fall ill

Authorities investigate possible gas attack by militants

Dozens of Afghan schoolgirls have fallen ill in recent days after reporting a strange odour in their classrooms in northern Afghanistan, prompting an investigation into whether they were targeted by militants.

Either way, the reports from three schools within three kilometres of one another in Kunduz province have raised alarm in a city threatened by the Taliban and its militant allies.

The latest cases occurred yesterday, when 13 girls became sick, Kunduz provincial spokesman Mahbobullah Sayedi said. Another 47 complained of dizziness and nausea the day before, and 23 fell ill last Wednesday.

All complained of a strange smell in class before they fell ill.

"I came out from the main hall, and I saw lots of other girls scattered everywhere," Anesa, a nine-year-old who was hospitalized briefly yesterday, told The Associated Press.

"Then suddenly, I felt that I was losing my balance and falling."

None of the illnesses was serious and the girls were only hospitalized for a short time. The Health Ministry said blood samples were inconclusive and were being sent to Kabul for further testing.

"This is a matter of concern not only for us but for the families," Sayedi said, blaming the sicknesses on "enemies" who oppose education for girls.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Girls a target

- Girls were not allowed to attend school when the Taliban controlled most of Afghanistan. The group was ousted from power in the 2001 U.S.-led invasion.
- The Taliban and other conservative extremist groups have been known to target schoolgirls.

ScanLife

Camp Obama and Camp Corail highlight successes and failures of Haiti quake relief.

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Don't phone E.T., Hawking warns in new documentary

SCIENCE British astrophysicist Stephen Hawking says aliens are out there, but it could be too dangerous for humans to interact with extraterrestrial life.

Hawking claims in a new documentary that intelligent alien lifeforms almost certainly exist, but warns that communicating with them could be "too risky." The 68-year-old scientist says a visit by extraterrestrials to Earth would be like Christopher Columbus arriving in the Americas, "which didn't turn out very well for the Native Americans."

He speculates most extraterrestrial life will be similar to microbes, or small animals — but adds advanced lifeforms may be "nomads, looking to conquer and colonize."

The Discovery Channel will broadcast Stephen Hawking's Universe in Britain next month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

OIL Crews were using a robot submarine yesterday to try to stop an oil leak nearly two kilometres below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico, but officials said it would take at least another day before they knew whether the job was completed. The Coast Guard said the spill was expected to stay 50 kilometres off the coast for the next three days, but the slick has the potential to threaten shores. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Most travellers stranded by ash cloud to arrive home by today

TRAVEL Most tourists stranded by the volcanic ash crisis will be home by today although thousands could be stuck for nearly another week, officials said.

A week of airspace closures caused by ash spewed by Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull volcano prompted the worst breakdown in civil aviation in Europe since the Second World War.

Mark Tanzer, chief executive of Britain's ABTA, which represents British travel agents and tour operators, said about 100,000 stranded British travellers should have been returned home by yesterday morning.

About 35,000 more will remain marooned until Friday, the group said.

"While most flights are back to normal, and most stranded British passengers will be back by the end of this weekend, there is still quite a high level of disruption in some destinations," Tanzer said.

Though authorities say Eyjafjallajokull is now producing much less ash, they confirmed no signs that the eruption is ending.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

100,000

The volcanic eruption has cancelled about 100,000 flights since April 15.

Jerusalem **Police, locals clash**

SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Masked Palestinian youths hurl stones at Israeli police, not seen, during clashes in the east Jerusalem neighbourhood of Silwan yesterday. Three dozen ultranationalist Jews, carrying Israeli flags, marched through the neighbourhood yesterday to dramatize their claims to the eastern sector of the holy city.

Venezuelan opposition holds primaries as congressional vote nears

POLITICS Opponents of President Hugo Chavez held primaries yesterday to pick candidates for upcoming congressional elections, a crucial step for Venezuela's opposition as it seeks a unified platform capable of winning the vote.

Venezuelans voted in a third of the country's 24 states with 87 hopefuls competing for 22 candidacies. The primaries are part of the opposition's effort to field a single candidate for each the 165 National Assembly seats up for grabs, its only means of gaining the edge needed to win a majority. Party leaders have already reached agreements on the other 143 candidates that will represent the opposition as it prepares for a campaign to gain control of the assembly, which has been dominated by Chavez allies since the last congressional vote in 2005.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Head-scratching law

Brad Kilburn can't be thrilled to be an outlaw in British Columbia. But the avid cyclist has become exactly that since last year.

Kilburn, you see, no longer wears a helmet while riding his bike.

The Richmond resident, who has commuted to work by bicycle for the last 26 years, has come to the realization that mandatory helmet laws are actually bad for cyclists and Metro Vancouver's cycling environment.

"It's too bad well-intentioned individuals have harmed cycling advocacy by forcing riders to wear helmets," he told me. Kilburn also maintains the same law is hampering Vancouver's attempt to set up a bike sharing program.

He's not alone in his assessment of helmet laws as more hindrance than help. In 2007, Saskatoon's city council rejected a bylaw that would require bikers to wear helmets. One councillor wisely cited Canada's obesity epidemic as a reason to distance the city from punitive measures that would discourage folks to get on a two-wheeler.

This is not to say that cyclists shouldn't wear helmets. Most should — especially children and those who ride in heavy traffic.

"Sadly, the law is symptomatic of the nanny-state mentality that is so pervasive today."

But forcing riders to wear head protection in every circumstance has had the effect of killing any spontaneity and enjoyment from cycling.

Not only do helmets give some riders a false sense of security, they also send a message to motorists that cyclists are somehow better protected — and less vulnerable — in the case of a collision.

Sadly, the law is symptomatic of the nanny-state mentality that is so pervasive today.

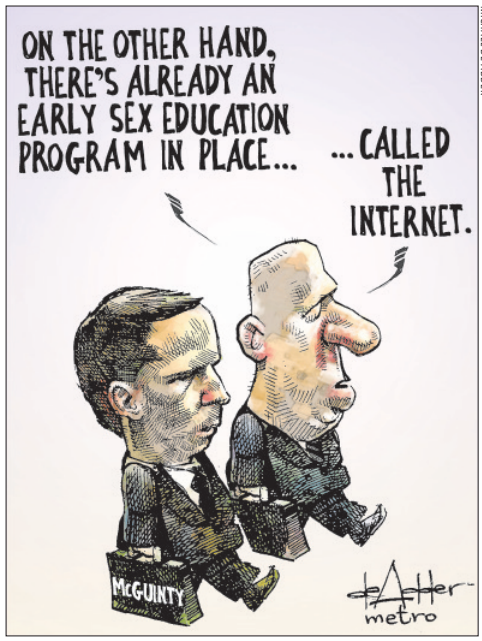
Last September, Colin Clarke, a bike safety expert and former coach with the British Cycling Federation, published a detailed report entitled "Evaluating bicycle helmet use and legislation in Canada."

According to his report, "helmet law effects in Canada appear to have resulted in the public being fined, subject to police involvement, loss of cycling health benefits and a reduction in civil liberties, as well as additional accidents and longer hospital stays for head injury."

Canada, his research concludes, should emulate the cycling culture of the Netherlands, where helmet laws are unnecessary because of "good cycling facilities or wide on-road cycle lanes that avoid high speed and heavy vehicle traffic."

Sadly, the sensibility that exists in Holland and even Saskatoon has yet to prevail in B.C. And that means cyclists like Kilburn will have to continue riding on the wrong side of the local law.

Derek Moscato is a writer with a focus on urban issues, transportation, architecture and economics; dmoscato@yahoo.com.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Film sets are wasteful places, actor says

It's not easy being green on a film set, says Colin Firth.

"It's a wasteful place," admits the Oscar-nominated actor.

"It is not ... because film people are free of conscience and they don't care about the planet. It's a very panic-stricken environment a lot of the time."

Firth says there are people in the film industry who will do anything to get a take on time.

"You get directors who say, 'Make the kid cry, get the scene right,'" he says with a laugh. "Things get wasted, thrown away, replaced. Whole sets go to landfill. Food gets laid out for the banquet scene and sprayed so it looks good but you can't touch it or eat it.

"The waste (even) to people who have no environmental conscience at all is pretty staggering to witness."

Firth was in Toronto over the weekend to accept an award, with his brother-in-law, for his support of the environment.

They received the inaugural International Entertainment Award award from the Green Living/Environmental Media Association at the Green Living show, attracting a large crowd of environmental enthusiasts and Firth fans.

The Environmental Media Association is trying to mobilize the entertainment industry to educate people about environmental issues and inspire them to take action.

The association invented the concept of the "green carpet," the idea of taking a hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle, not a limo, to high-profile awards events.

Firth, his wife Livia, and her brother Nicola Giuggioli co-founded Eco Age in 2007, a London-based store that sells environmentally sensible products and offers consulting support to businesses on how to operate in a green way.

Accompanied by his famous brother-in-law, Giuggioli said in an interview that one of his goals is to show others that it is possible to run both a financially and environmentally sound business.

"You can do it and actually it is going to work pretty well," said Giuggioli, who was 25 when he began his business.

The concept is to go beyond green products.

"People should come to my shop to buy good things. The whole ethos behind the thing was to make things desirable," he says.

Colin Firth

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Noteworthy

British government issues apology to Pope

Britain's Foreign Office issued a hasty apology yesterday to Pope Benedict after publication of an internal memo in which officials joked he could open an abortion clinic, launch a range of condoms or sing a duet with the Queen during a four-day visit in September.

The document, sections of which were published in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper, also proposed the Pope could bless a gay marriage, and acknowledge the clerical sex abuse scandal by establishing a hotline for abused children, or honouring abuse whistleblowers.

Junior officials wrote the memo following a brainstorming session intended to discuss ideas for the visit, the first to Britain by the head of the Roman Catholic Church since pope John Paul in 1982.

Though some included advice for Britain's government on how to approach the abuse scandal, the ministry condemned many of the proposals as "ill-judged, naive and disrespectful."

Britain's ambassador to the Vatican, Francis Campbell, met senior Vatican officials to offer a formal apology and one individual involved in drafting the memo has been transferred to other duties, the ministry said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote of the Day

"I want to create a movement for men's health because men just don't go to the doctor as often as they should."

— THOMAS CANTLEY, A NOVA SCOTIA-BORN FILMMAKER AND PHOTOGRAPHER WHO IS PREPARING FOR AN EPIC JOURNEY ACROSS NORTH AMERICA, PUSHING A SEVEN-FOOT RUBBER BALL AHEAD OF HIM TO BRING ATTENTION TO TESTICULAR CANCER.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Israel ends ban on iPad imports

Israel has ended its ban on Apple's iPad tablet computer, imposed over concerns its wireless signal could be disruptive. Israel's Communications Ministry says that after a technical review, officials have decided to allow the popular device into the country. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	N.GAS	OIL	TSX
US 99.91¢	US $4.257	US $85.12	12,239.64
(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)	(Friday's close)

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Canada set to rebound

GROWTH Earnings from more than a quarter of Canada's blue-chip companies will be released in the coming week, painting a picture of corporate Canada's rebound from last year's recession.

CIBC economist Peter Buchanan is predicting 45 per cent year-over-year growth with the materials and financial sectors leading the way, based on a compilation of analyst estimates.

"It's consistent with some of the other (economic) indicators that Canada's recovery has moved up a notch in the last quarter or so, so it's certainly a positive sign," he said.

Buchanan said if companies meet analyst expectations it will be the largest year-over-year increase since the first quarter of 2003, when the economy saw a sharp recovery.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Finance

- The financial sector, led by Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd. will be a major driver of overall growth after rebounding from very weak year-ago performances, said a CIBC economist.

Goldman's short game

Bankers' emails boast about earnings in midst of housing decline

As the U.S. housing market turned downward in January 2007, a Goldman Sachs trader wrote in an email to a woman he apparently was courting that investments he had sold were "like Frankenstein turning against his own inventor."

"I'm trading a product which a month ago was worth $100 US and today is only worth $93," wrote Fabrice Tourre, who was charged along with the bank in a civil complaint filed this month by the Securities and Exchange Commission. "That doesn't seem like a lot but when you take into account ... (the investments) are worth billions, well it adds up to a lot of money."

Tourre was talking about investment products like the one at the heart of a federal complaint against his firm. For Tourre, the investments were like an invention gone awry: He had started arranging them when the market was on the upswing. But he continued selling them after the market turned — now with Goldman betting against them, in one case allegedly misleading investors about a deal's origin.

Goldman Sachs CEO Lloyd Blankfein

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. released that email and 25 other internal documents Saturday in response to a Senate panel's release of messages in which Goldman executives boast about money they were making as the market imploded later in 2007.

When credit-rating agencies downgraded many billions of dollars of mortgage-backed investments in October 2007, Goldman executive Donald Mullen was unabashedly pleased.

"Sounds like we will make serious money," Mullen wrote to Michael Swenson, another executive, in one of the e-mails released by the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

Goldman has argued vehemently that it did not profit from the mortgage meltdown.

Swenson and Tourre, along with Goldman CEO Lloyd Blankfein, will face a public grilling on Capitol Hill tomorrow from the subcommittee.

The SEC alleges Goldman misled two investors — IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG, a German bank, and ACA Management LLC, a U.S. bond insurance company — who bought complex mortgage-related products crafted in part by Paulson & Co., a New York hedge fund led by billionaire John Paulson. Paulson was betting the market would collapse. The SEC says Goldman didn't tell the investors that Paulson was involved in choosing the investments or that he was betting they would fail.

Goldman has denied wrongdoing and says it will fight the charges. It has said it lost money on the particular deal of Tourre's that the SEC charges address.

The internal e-mails were released by subcommittee chair Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich. In a statement, Levin called banks like Goldman "self-interested promoters of risky and complicated financial schemes that helped trigger the crisis."

"Of course we didn't dodge the mortgage mess," CEO Lloyd Blankfein wrote in a message dated Nov. 18, 2007. "We lost money, then made more than we lost because of shorts."

Short positions are bets that the market will go down. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Learn from Greek debt crisis: Minister

DEBT The financial calamity threatening Greece dominated discussions Saturday at meetings of the International Monetary Fund as some European countries expressed fears that US$60 billion in aid won't be enough, said Canada's Jim Flaherty.

Fresh off winning his battle against a global bank tax advocated by the IMF, Flaherty sat down with a roundtable of Canadian media to say the situation in Greece serves as a warning to countries like the U.S. and Great Britain.

"The crisis in Greece focuses the mind," Flaherty said, adding some countries have "too much optimism" in their economic forecasts. "There are a number of western industrialized economies, including a number of European economies, that are running substantial deficits and accumulating a lot of debt," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Exploration ban reconsidered

OIL Georges Bank, a vast, shallow stretch of sea floor off Canada's east coast that could be home to valuable natural gas reserves, is at the centre of an increasingly divided debate over whether a moratorium that has shielded it from oil and gas exploration for years should be lifted.

Nova Scotia's NDP government has to decide by June 1 whether to launch a review of the moratorium and has suggested it's open to the idea of reconsidering it, the first step in its possible abolition.

The comments have angered environmentalists and opposition politicians who say the party has done an about-face.

Before being elected last year, the NDP was opposed to allowing oil and gas activity on the sprawling marine area known for its circular currents and prime hatching conditions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China Auto show-manship

GEMUNU AMARASINGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dancers, some inside an inflated transparent balloon, perform yesterday at Beijing Auto China 2010. Chinese automakers announced ambitious plans to expand abroad as global producers unveiled new models aimed at boosting sales in China's fast-growing market.

Business in brief

AVIATION The Manitoba government is still hoping to sweet-talk Air Canada into reopening its flight-attendant base in Winnipeg two years after the airline announced its closure as part of a cost-cutting plan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Going Green

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Eco wines catching on

Wine can make people think of a lot of different things, especially good food, good friends and good times. Increasingly you can add another good to the list — good environmental stewardship.

Many winemakers are making efforts to grow their grapes using environmentally responsible and sustainable methods.

Organic wines, which avoid the use of pesticides in grapes and is produced through sustainable farming practices, is becoming a more frequent presence on Canadian liquor store shelves.

The environmentally conscious consumer does not have to make a sacrifice to drink green wine. According to Hillary Dawson, president of the Wine Council of Ontario, there is no difference in taste or quality between organic and non-organic products.

Although there has been an increase in demand for organic products from consumers, Dawson says the decision to go organic goes much deeper than a business one. "It's not a need, it's a want," Dawson says. "Growing grapes requires a real deep connection to the soil."

The amount of green products available to the consumer might be even greater than it appears, according to Dawson. Although many producers use organic techniques to make their wine, Dawson says that the certification process to be recognized as organic is "onerous." As a result, a lot of farmers don't bother.

"There are a million ways to show that you are sustainable," Dawson says. "I'm just proud that our producers are doing what they can to practise in ways that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the industry."

However, one winemaker that has gone through the process of organic certification says that it is important to do so. Bruce Ewert is the proprietor of L'Acadie winery in Nova Scotia. He says that there is only one way that consumers can be sure that they are getting an organic product — look on the label for certification.

"With marketing you can say anything," Ewert says. "When you put it on the label you know that a third party has been involved. It gives it credibility."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Spare a thought for salmon

Eco-**Minded**

On April 23, the Get Out Migration started. Concerned citizens, families, artists, fishermen, First Nations, business owners and others are joining the scientist Alexandra Morton to walk the length of Vancouver Island.

They are taking a stand against ocean-based net pen salmon aquaculture. This type of fish farming pollutes our waters, hosts infestations of sea lice and various pathogens, and adds to the serious threats confronting our wild salmon.

This massive "migration" is a metaphor for the migration of salmon: these astounding fish navigate up to thousands of kilometres of rivers and oceans to grow and return to the very stretch of river where they hatched. If you haven't seen the adults leaping up rapids to spawn, add this to your "bucket list": it's a magical sight.

Wild salmon are indicators of land, freshwater and marine ecosystem health because of their life cycles. The startling decline of sockeye salmon suggests that big changes are required for both humans and wild salmon to thrive together.

Aquaculture is just one of many stressors to wild salmon, but it's worth addressing because it's so solvable. We simply need collaboration between industry, governments, and non-government organizations, with an eye on ongoing innovation.

Together, we have the power to transform salmon farming to closed-containment land-based aquaculture that will provide jobs and not harm wild stocks.

Kai Chan is an assistant professor and Canada Research Chair at the Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability (IRES) at UBC. Sarah Klain is in an MSc program at IRES where her research focuses on fishing communities and marine conservation in coastal B.C.

Fish facts

- Pens of salmon in the ocean intensify diseases and parasites that infect wild salmon.
- Another farmed salmon powerhouse, Chile, lost more than half of its production to a viral disease outbreak in 2009.
- Using existing technology, salmon aquaculture could be done on land without harming wild salmon stocks, profitably.
- Watch the Get Out Migration rallying cry (vimeo.com/10901488) and join this mobilization from April 23 to May 8 on Vancouver Island.

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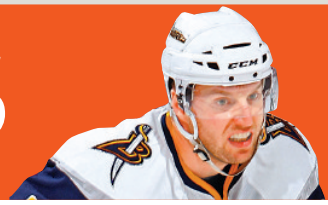
No suspension for Hossa

Marian Hossa will be in Chicago's lineup for Game 6 against Nashville tonight. The Blackhawks forward learned yesterday that he would not be suspended for his hit on Predators defenceman Dan Hamhuis late in Game 5. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sports



Decision left to Vanek

Buffalo Sabres coach Lindy Ruff has left the decision with leading scorer Thomas Vanek, left, to determine whether his sore left ankle is strong enough to play in Game 6 of the team's first-round playoff series at Boston tonight. "He's close now. It's his decision whether he can play or not," Ruff said yesterday, after Vanek took part in his second straight day of practice after missing the past three games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Coyotes force another game against Wings

(Series tied 3-3)

Coyotes 5 Red Wings 2

VS

The Phoenix Coyotes were at their best when they were up or down a skater, or two, and that gave them a chance to survive for at least one more game.

Phoenix scored its first three goals on special teams and Ilya Bryzgalov made 31 saves in a 5-2 win over Detroit yesterday that forced Game 7 in the first-round series.

"They won the special-teams battle," Red Wings coach Mike Babcock said.

"That sucked the life out of our team."

Phoenix will host the final game against Detroit tomorrow night.

GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

Phoenix Coyotes Keith Yandle fights with Detroit Red Wings Justin Abdelkader yesterday during NHL playoff action in Detroit.

"Any time you can play in a Game 7, it's a game you'll remember," Coyotes coach Dave Tippett said.

Detroit would love to forget how Game 6 started.

The Coyotes were called for three penalties in the first 4:42 — including a pair that put them down two skaters for 1:09 — but they were the only team to score in the opening period.

Detroit defenceman Brad Stuart nonchalantly carried the puck out of his end, Lauri Korpikoski snatched it and scored a short-handed goal 4:10 in to spark the win.

"My fault," Stuart said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

Los Angeles King Dustin Brown tries to shoot as Vancouver Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo looks on last night in Los Angeles. The Canucks won 4-2 to advance to the next round of the playoffs.

Canucks advance

(Canucks win series 4-2)

Canucks 4 Kings 2

VS

Daniel Sedin scored the tiebreaking goal with 2:03 to play, and the Vancouver Canucks rallied from another third-period deficit to finish off their first-round series against the Los Angeles Kings with a 4-2 victory in Game 6 last night.

Roberto Luongo made 30 saves while keeping Vancouver close in its third straight victory over Los Angeles, and Kevin Bieksa tied it early in the third period for the third-seeded Canucks.

Sedin then skated in to collect a loose puck and snapped a shot over goalie Jonathan Quick, sending Vancouver to the second round of the Western Conference playoffs for the third time in four seasons.

Drew Doughty and Alexander Frolov scored and Quick stopped 18 shots for the sixth-seeded Kings, who struggled to finish close games in their first playoff appearance since 2002.

Steve Bernier scored an early goal for Vancouver, and Alex Burrows put his first goal of the post-season into an empty net with 1:07 left.

Mikael Samuelsson failed to score a goal for the first time in his remarkable series, but still earned two assists — including an accidental helper on Sedin's decisive goal when he apparently broke his stick on a slap shot — to finish with 11 points.

Vancouver roared into the second round, possibly to meet Chicago for the second straight year, after trailing in the third period of Game 4 while Los Angeles had a 2-1 series lead.

The Canucks dominated the series' next 80 minutes, scoring four goals to win Game 4 at Staples Center before routing Los Angeles 7-2 in Game 5 at home on Friday night.

Vancouver finished the series on a 15-5 run over the final seven periods.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

SOCCER Salomon Kalou scored three goals and Frank Lampard added two as Chelsea beat Stoke 7-0 to stay a point ahead of Manchester United in the Premier League title race yesterday. Chelsea has 80 points to United's 79.

BASEBALL Seattle Mariners left-hander Cliff Lee tossed six shutout innings in a rehab start for triple-A Tacoma yesterday. Lee, working his way back into shape after straining his abdomen during spring training, allowed three hits, struck out four and walked none against Salt Lake.

HORSE RACING Likely Kentucky Derby favourite Eskendereya is out of the Run for the Roses. Trainer Todd Pletcher said he's pulling the three-year-old colt out of next weekend's Derby due to an "issue" in the horse's left front leg. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCOREBOARD

NHL PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Phoenix 5 Detroit 2

VANCOUVER 4 Los Angeles 2

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Cleveland 121 Chicago 98
Miami 101 Boston 92
San Antonio 92 Dallas 89
Utah 117 Denver 106

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Tampa Bay 6 Toronto 0
Baltimore 7 Boston 6 (10 ings)
Chicago White Sox 3 Seattle 2
Kansas City 4 Minnesota 3
L.A. Angels 8 N.Y. Yankees 4
Oakland 11 Cleveland 0
Texas 8 Detroit 4

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Arizona 8 Philadelphia 6
Chicago Cubs 12 Milwaukee 2
Cincinnati 5 San Diego 4
Colorado 8 Florida 4
Houston 10 Pittsburgh 3
St. Louis 2 San Francisco 0
Washington 1 L.A. Dodgers 0
N.Y. Mets 1 Atlanta 0

B.C. college gets funding hike
The B.C. government announced it is providing the College of New Caledonia with nearly $2.7 million for equipment and start-up costs and more than $590,000 in annual funding for a new medical radiography technology diploma program. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

McMaster gears up auto research

McMaster University is looking to convert part of a warehouse at its Longwood Road research park into an automotive resource centre. The institution is hoping to start a $15-million retrofit at the warehouse as early as this summer, depending on the availability of requested federal funding. Tenants in the McMaster Auto Research Centre would work directly with the $65-million CANMET materials research lab across the road. That facility is on schedule to open by October. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

A colourful way to make a living

OddJobs

When most of us see Michelle Obama in a yellow dress or watch the blue-green world of Avatar, we think: that looks cool.

Alice Chu sees next season's popular colours.

Chu was good at art as a child and worked hard to get better so she could attend university. She was born in Shanghai and moved to Taiwan with her grandparents to escape communism (her parents and sister stayed behind); getting into school was very competitive.

By the time she'd finished her degree, both her grandparents had passed away. With nothing to keep her in Asia, she went to Columbia University in New York for a masters in art. But being a fine artist wasn't for her. "I thought to myself: 'If I just paint, it's not a career that can provide me with a job and money.'"

A summer job at a graphic design firm solved that problem. After she met her husband, she moved with him to Boston, then to Montreal after he got a job at McGill University. Since graphic design work was often sporadic, she decided to do her teaching diploma at McGill in 1972.

She began teaching in the visual arts department at Dawson's College. Then a job posting at Ryerson in 1977 caught her eye. She moved to Toronto, seeing her husband every two weeks and during the summers.

Chu was a bit unsure at first: the job was teaching basic design, but in the school of fashion.

As the years passed, Chu became increasingly interested in fashion, and in particular, colour. She observed how strong coloured, fashion-forward garments pull people into stores, but they often purchase conservatively hued pieces. She wondered about favourite colours: do people like certain colours because they're appealing, or because they look good in them.

Chu began writing about these issues and discussing them with her students. In the late 1980s, she joined Color Marketing Group. This U.S.-based non-profit has members from a range of industries, including interior design, that meet twice a year to discuss which colours are popular and to guess what will be hot in upcoming seasons.

It then publishes the group's predictions. Fabric manufacturers and paint companies then use these colour predictions to help formulate new products.

To develop her own theories of what's the next hot colour, Chu's always observing what's going on in pop culture, politics, the economy and big events. She's always looking at fashion magazines and what people are wearing whens she travels.

Chu's not always spot on. She says guessing colour trends is like predicting the weather. "If you're right 80 per cent of the time, you're OK."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Alice Chu has an eye for colours.

The Lowdown

Job title: Colour specialist
Salary: Varies
Education/training: Art background
Best Part of the Job: "I have a reason to travel."
Worst Part of the Job: "Trying to come up with the right colour."

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Alberta university outsources e-mail services to Google
After reviewing a privacy impact assessment submitted by the University of Alberta on its plans to outsource its e-mail services to Google, Alberta's privacy commissioner says the university has done what it reasonably can to ensure the protection of personal information. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Helping women get to the top

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

Companies need to establish strong foundations for their female employees in order to eliminate hiring to fill quotas, says the author of Wander Woman: How High-Achieving Women Find Contentment And Direction

Women may finally be climbing the corporate ladder faster and in greater numbers than ever before, but as Marcia Reynolds, Psy.D cautions, don't be a managerial lemming.

In her recent book Wander Woman: How High-Achieving Women Find Contentment And Direction (Berrett-Koehler), Reynolds points out that despite grabbing opportunity, not all of those employment acquisitions are beneficial.

"I did an informal survey with a group of professional women world-wide asking, 'Would you take a job to fill a quota?' The majority said yes, (feeling) this was the only way to make the changes to give women a voice at top levels and open doors to the women behind them," she notes. "Although many would say that this is necessary to break down the control of the male elite, would you take a position based on filling a quota? This offer doesn't sound attractive to me."

An instructional book designed to develop and assist both current and aspiring female leaders in attaining/maintaining high-profile leadership roles, Wander Woman challenges those potential allowances in an effort to help women achieve managerial status on the basis of ability, professionalism and knowledge, not genus.

To that extent, Reynolds illustrates that companies must invest in their own future by re-aligning current executive mindset; eliminate hiring to "fill allocations" and establish stronger foundations of female employees moulded into management material beforehand, not as they assume the corner office.

"If leaders don't have enough qualified women to promote, they should work on how they develop them (management training programs, working with coaches/mentors) and create corporate cultures that appeal to top female performers. This process might be slower than imposing quotas but it's likely to get more buy-in from the women themselves."

Similarly, onus is not entirely on organizations. Those striving to take on greater leadership roles must ensure they have the skill set necessary for senior positions, lest they be seen as attaining titles they were thrust into. Such perspectives only create tougher challenges in proving merit or escaping negative, conceivably envious co-workers.

"Women have to be responsible for their own development. If their companies don't offer training and mentoring, they should seek it on their own," Reynolds asserts. "This gives them the leverage to move on to another company that will value what they have to offer while their previous companies struggle to fill in the gaps."

Essentially, Reynolds informs that promising female leaders must make two immediate commitments in order to be strong managers in the future: Ask others for guidance and work on developing personal and professional networks.

"One of the most difficult things for smart, ambitious women to admit is that they need help. However, asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness," Reynolds concludes sagely. "As for friends, they not only open doors and provide important connections but offer emotional support when difficulties and disappointments arise."

"I call this network a woman's 'communities of support' (and) according to Malcolm Gladwell in his book Outliers, successful people need them. Not rock stars, professional athletes, software billionaires or even geniuses ever make it alone."

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More Monsters
Pixar's 2001 film Monsters Inc., a film about monsters who scare kids for a living, is to have a sequel, the Disney studio has announced. The animated followup will be released in November 2012. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

Healthy Hall
Dexter star Michael C. Hall has recovered from cancer and has returned to work, reports his wife Jennifer Carpenter. Hall announced in January he had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Eddie Izzard exposed

British stand-up comedian brings Stripped tour to Canada

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

In his high-heels, lipstick and earrings, there's no mistaking Eddie Izzard.

Yes, the 42-year-old British stand-up comedian is a transvestite, an issue he's addressed many times during various performances. Discerning between types of cross-dressers ("weirdo" versus "executive") and asserting that many men in women's clothing are in fact heterosexual, after 20 years as a comic, film and television star, Izzard is well beyond justifying his looks.

Not that it matters anyway. Slick, self-assured and quite intellectual, as Izzard delves into his shows, the initially shocking visual aspect quickly evaporates as one becomes enraptured in his alluring ability to regale with engaging tales steeped in history and hilarity.

"I always say I talk about everything there ever was ... with gaps," he smiles, referring to his penchant for relaying factual situations with a humorous twist. "(Comics) have to talk about something and if you have no point of view on anything, you end up doing dick jokes or mother in-law jokes which is incredibly boring. You have the pressure of talking about something but if you can articulate a point of view, you can talk about absolutely anything. I discovered history which was waiting to be used."

"I ad-lib as much as I can in every show (but) this show is well up to speed. I've performed in about 40 or 50 arenas so far, so Canada's getting it when it's in good shape ... I'm ready to talk more rubbish."
Eddie Izzard

Taking that modus to its extreme on his latest tour dubbed Stripped, Izzard reveals plans to discuss everything from God — or the lack thereof — to old people dying in their beds, Greeks and Romans, Egyptians, cavemen and more. He notes that the show is yet another wealth of information delivered with sincerity, brevity and most importantly, humour.

"I saw a professor lecture on a subject that I'm interested in and it was incredibly boring. There was too much detail and it was monotone. I break it down: 'There were these people and they were f—ed up. Then these people came along and they were really f—ed up.' I cut it down and make it more street-accessible. Hopefully I'm not offering lessons so much as observations, though."

Still, as any devout Izzard fan knows, despite a general outline, there's always the potential for Stripped to careen off the rails nightly. Continually succumbing to his own tangents and affection for improvisation, Izzard often becomes so caught up in entertaining unscripted tales he becomes lost. "Where was I?" is as much a fixture of Eddie Izzard shows as his shocking appearance. At that, Izzard reveals that even with a host of items to discuss on Stripped's Canadian stint, he can't be sure exactly where it will go.

British stand-up comedian and noted transvestite, Eddie Izzard.

Eddie Izzard live

- Eddie Izzard performs at The Queen Elizabeth Theatre on May 21 & 22.

"Anyone gets bored with doing the same thing over and over again so I ad-lib as much as I can in every show (but) this show is well up to speed. I've performed in about 40 or 50 arenas so far, so Canada's getting it when it's in good shape ... I'm ready to talk more rubbish."

Ballsy move to raise testicular cancer awareness

HEALTH A young Nova Scotia-born filmmaker and photographer is preparing for an epic personal journey across North America, pushing a seven-foot rubber ball ahead of him to bring attention to testicular cancer.

"I've always had big ideas and been kind of out there," said Thomas Cantley, who got the diagnosis last year that would make most men cringe.

"Everyone's always told me I was ballsy even before I got this," he said following recent surgeries to remove his left testicle and several lymph nodes.

Cantley, who now calls New York City home, plans to create a documentary called Ballsy out of his travels, interviewing health care professionals and cancer survivors along the way.

"I'm 27. I never even had a cavity. I've always been healthy, then I'm told I have testicular cancer," he said. "It didn't really even hit me at first."

Cantley said he'd been in pain for months before he decided to seek medical help last fall.

"I want to create a movement for men's health because men just don't go to the doctor as often as they should."

His testicle was removed in New York but the lymph node surgery was done when he returned home to Nova Scotia.

The Vancouver Film School graduate said he wanted something therapeutic to keep him focused through the ordeal so he decided to shoot his surgery.

"I'm 27. I never even had a cavity. I've always been healthy, then I'm told I have testicular cancer ... It didn't really even hit me at first."
Thomas Cantley

The idea for the Ballsy project began taking shape as he lay in recovery and had a chance to talk to a 17-year-old boy who was just about to undergo the same surgery.

"I had no idea. He just really impacted me. Before I got testicular cancer I had no idea about this. It turned into a personal project to create awareness," he said.

Back in New York, Cantley was able to hook up with a producer and they started brainstorming ideas to create a thread for his documentary. They came up with the idea of pushing a giant ball from Los Angeles to New York and then from Toronto to Halifax.

Planning is underway as Cantley seeks corporate sponsors, works out his travel itinerary and logistical support and awaits the arrival of his eight-kilogram, giant white ball from the manufacturer in Italy.

He has already heard from the American Cancer Society, The Lance Armstrong Foundation and the Canadian Testicular Cancer Association.

Cantley said he hasn't set a start date yet but he wants to take advantage of good summer weather and has begun working out with a personal trainer in New York to improve his stamina.

In the meantime, he begins fundraising efforts with a silent auction in Halifax today.

Statistics compiled by Health Canada show testicular cancer is the most common cancer in young Canadian men between the ages of 15 and 29. When caught early, it is often easily treatable and curable.

In Alberta and British Columbia testicular cancer ranks first in cancer for men between 25 and 34 years of age.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Myers says Austin movie 'on track'

MOVIES

Myers

Mike Myers can't wait to revive his Austin Powers alter ego for another movie — but he's struggling to assemble his cast for production.

The funnyman announced last year he had begun work on another sequel. Myers insists the project is still "on track" but admits he has run into problems recruiting stars.

He tells MTV News, "Things are on track. It's hard to keep a ... team together and I'm very happy how insanely well it's gone. Then it gets hard to get everybody all together. (But) it's chugging along."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Death of Osmond's son ruled a suicide

The death of the 18-year-old son of U.S. singer Marie Osmond has been ruled a suicide, according to coroner officials in Los Angeles, BBC is reporting. Toxicology results showed drugs or alcohol did not play a part in the death of Michael Blosil, who jumped from an apartment building in February. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spock raises V in Vulcan pride

SCI-FI Mr. Spock came home Friday, ironically by boldly going somewhere he'd never gone before.

Leonard Nimoy, the actor who turned the sci-fi science officer into a pop-culture icon on the TV series Star Trek, made his first trip to the town of Vulcan, Alta., south of Calgary, to be honoured by throngs of fans decked out in pointy ears and Starfleet tunics.

"I have been a Vulcan for 44 years," Nimoy said to cheers and applause. "I figured it was about time I came home."

Vulcan was the name of Spock's home planet on the 1960s show that has since mushroomed into a multibillion-dollar global phenomenon of movies, games and memorabilia.

The 79-year-old icon arrived and was immediately whisked into the Vulcan Tourism and Trek Station, a futuristic circular building epitomizing the town's fascination with the show and its determination to turn it into a tourism cash cow.

Nimoy was the star of a parade, had his handprint immortalized with fingers spread in the famous Vulcan V and got the key to the town.

He told the town his famous character had taken him all over the world, gotten him inducted to the space hall of fame, and helped him shoot far past his dream of simply making a living as an actor.

"In all of these experiences I have never had an experience quite as touching as I'm having here today."

More than 2,000 fans screamed hysterically as Nimoy spoke, shouting that he's loved by the town and always welcome to come back home.

"A living legend. I think he's the sexiest man on television, ever," said Christine Desjardins, who sported a red starfleet tunic. "Then and now. Can't beat him."

Tammy Dann slathered on sparkling green body paint from head-to-toe to look like an Orion slave girl from the original television series.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harlem know their history

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

Speaking with the members of the Austin trio, Harlem, in their hometown over Bloody Marys is like flipping through an encyclopedia.

In addition to the absurd cultural touchstones they bring up, the musical acts that come up in conversation include ABBA, Buddy Holly, Slash, the Cure, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and the Black Crowes.

"I ran into that guy one time," says singer Michael Coomers of Crowes frontman Chris Robinson. "I had just read an interview where he had said something to the extent of, 'I invented punk rock,' and I was like 16, with a little mohawk or something, and I said, 'You didn't invent punk rock, you're a douchebag,' or something sh—y, and my girlfriend looked back and said that Kate Hudson was holding him back from beating me up."

This is as apt of a representation of Harlem's attitude as anything. They know their history and they feel very strongly about it, and their approach is aggressive, but somehow comical at times.

Don't start spouting off music trivia around Harlem unless you want to be corrected.

Take a picture

• At a show at last month's SXSW conference, filled with industry types, bassist Jose Boyer and drummer/guitarist Curtis O'Mara hassled the photo-snapping crowd members to clear the front so their fans could dance. "Are you going to take a picture and dance to it later?" hounded O'Mara. Boyer says dancing fans can be trouble, too. "Some girl got her shoe stuck on his guitar," he nods to Michael Coomers. So it's a Catch-22: With fans crowding the stage and creating mayhem, or it's people standing still with their digital cameras? "I'd definitely prefer the first one," says Coomers.

Their new album, Hippies, features songs in a style that Metro has dubbed "Oldies on Drugs"; tunes that owe their structures to 1950s and early '60s rock 'n' roll but will effortlessly include cuss words and drug references.

"If I could be your darlin' you've gotta start fallin' for all the bullsh— that I give you," sings Coomers in the track, Be Your Baby.

"There's only so many patterns that you're gonna hit with that six-stringed piece of wood," Coomers says.

Let that be a lesson to you, Bart!

TELEVISION The animated television characters of Homer and Bart Simpson have been used to educate students about a wide variety of topics, from philosophy to the law.

The Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan is counting on "D'oh!" moments with school kids. Jonas Kiedrowski, who created a newsletter, combed through Simpsons episodes to find examples of legal issues he could present to students in a fun way. In one episode, Homer sues his boss, Mr. Burns, for hitting Bart with his car and demands $1 million in damages. Kiedrowski says Homer's lawsuit makes outrageous legal claims; and, in the end, he gets nothing. The lesson? The evils of frivolous lawsuits, which the legal educator says use the legal system as a means of making money, not of meting out justice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Box office

1. **How to Train Your Dragon:** $15 million US
2. **The Back-up Plan:** $12.3 million
3. **Date Night:** $10.6 million
4. **The Losers:** $9.6 million
5. **Kick-Ass** $9.5 million
6. **Clash of the Titans** $9 million
7. **Death at a Funeral,** $8 million
8. **Oceans,** $6 million
9. **The Last Song** $3.7 million
10. **Alice in Wonderland** $2.2 million

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The Killers earn accolades
Rock band The Killers took home an award for musical impact, while pop hitmaker Dr. Luke, who has penned songs for Katy Perry, was named songwriter of the year by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IAN GAVAN/GETTY IMAGES
Cuss-filled rant part of Mansion Song on Kate Nash's new album.

Kate Nash's funny side

British singer's second album full of catchy, clever style

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

Kate Nash begins My Best Friend is You, her sophomore effort, in the same Hitsville UK territory that defined her debut. But that's just a point of departure. And oh what a departure it is.

By the fourth song, I Just Love You More, she's screaming, shivering and cooing against a guitar that sounds borrowed from the Breeders.

"Well, I kind of wanted to mix it a little bit between the pop and the weirder stuff," says the singer.

"(The lyrics) are kind of funny. It's not like I find them hilarious, but they are silly."
Singer Kate Nash

She says to achieve this mix, she paid a lot of attention to the album's sequence.

"I had to work on figuring that out for quite a while," she says.

"Some of it really I thought was kind of funny to do, like after I Just Love You More coming straight with Do-Wah-Doo."

That she comes back to the friendly Motown neighborhood with songs like Do-Wah-Doo will ensure she doesn't alienate the fans that her debut Made of Bricks earned her in 2007.

It's just that she puts these nuggets of primal energy in between the catchy and clever material.

And yes, all of the silly, yet vulnerable expressions of jealousy are here as well.

"I bet her feet don't even stink," she sings of the subject in Kiss That Girl.

"I try not to take myself too seriously, and they are kind of funny," Nash says of lyrics like that.

"It's not like I find them hilarious, but they are silly little things that you do kind of get pissed off about."

If that pissed-off feeling is beneath the surface in her poppier numbers, it's all out on display a few songs later in Mansion Song, which begins with a cuss-filled rant that ramps up to a breathless fever by the second minute.

"I was just thinking I wanted to do something like that because I'm interested in other styles as well and want to experiment," she says.

That's not the only experimental thing Nash has going for her. She's been playing with a punk band called The Receeders on the side.

"It's the first time I've really written with other people," she says.

"It opened me up, maybe made me a little bit more relaxed.

"And I'm playing bass as well, so I'm thinking differently about how the songs are written."

Judging by the sheer variety of her new album, it's clear that Nash is thinking differently about a lot of things.

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Eliot Spitzer doc hits N.Y. streets

Ex-governor skips premiere

FILM A much-anticipated documentary about former New York governor Eliot Spitzer premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Though many of those interviewed for the film were in attendance Saturday evening, the documentary's subject was not. Director Alex Gibney, whose Taxi to the Dark Side won the 2007 documentary Oscar, interviewed Spitzer four times over the two years he spent making the film.

Though it was billed as unfinished and doesn't yet have a title, Gibney said the film was "mostly finished." He made the film in tandem with author Peter Elkind, whose book Rough Justice: The Rise and Fall of Eliot Spitzer was recently released.

Ashley Dupre, the former call girl involved in the scandal, was not interviewed for the film. Gibney told the audience she asked for editorial control, which he refused. Messages left with representatives of Dupre late Saturday night weren't immediately returned.

Among those interviewed on camera were former CEO Cecil Suwal of the Emperor's Club VIP escort service and Spitzer rivals former New York Sen. Joe Bruno and Kenneth Langone, the former director of the New York Stock Exchange.

Gibney said he also discovered the identity of another prostitute, Angelina, whom Spitzer frequently visited. She wouldn't be interviewed on camera, though, so Gibney hired an actress to read her answers in character.

Eliot Spitzer

Spitzer's wife, Silda Wall Spitzer, didn't grant an interview for the documentary.

Often sitting on a couch in a suit with his legs crossed, Spitzer looks directly into the camera as he tries to explain why he continued to visit prostitutes before resigning in 2008.

"You cave to temptations in ways that seem easier and perhaps less damaging," he says.

The documentary tracks Spitzer's meteoric rise in New York politics and his crusades against Merrill Lynch, AIG and the New York Stock Exchange. The film also raises questions about the investigation into the Emperor's Club, suggesting that political motives may have been behind the investigation.

Gibney said Spitzer had not yet seen the film but is expected to soon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California court rules in Polanski case, but no end in sight

CRIME Roman Polanski's loss of a crucial California court decision sets up his return to the United States more than three decades after he fled a statutory rape charge, Swiss legal experts said Friday.

However, they predicted months of further legal wrangling before extradition.

Caught up in the complexity and political sensitivity of the case, Switzerland has yet to issue a decision on delivering the fugitive Oscar-winning filmmaker to Los Angeles prosecutors nearly seven months after his arrest.

Swiss authorities have cited the voluminous paperwork and said they would wait out a California court's examination of whether Polanski could be sentenced in absentia for having sex in 1977 with a 13-year-old girl.

But the U.S. court rejected Polanski's sentencing request Thursday without an opinion. While his attorneys could still appeal to the California Supreme Court, legal experts saw little basis for Swiss authorities to reject handing over Polanski.

VITTORIO ZUNINO/GETTY IMAGES
Fugitive filmmaker has been on house arrest at his Swiss chalet for seven months.

"Extradition is likely now," said Dieter Jann, a former Zurich prosecutor. "Not much has changed, and Switzerland has a legal obligation here."

The Swiss Justice Ministry said Friday it wouldn't rush a decision since it still must receive and study the ruling by the California 2nd District Court of Appeal. Polanski's lawyers have argued he shouldn't have to be present to be sentenced on one count of unlawful sexual intercourse, saying he should be let off with time served.

Polanski's American attorneys have not outlined their next step.

Asked whether the director of Rosemary's Baby, Chinatown and The Pianist would continue to fight extradition, his French lawyer Hervé Témime said, "I think so," but declined to answer specific questions.

The Swiss arrested Polanski on Sept. 26 on a U.S. warrant as he arrived in Zurich to receive a lifetime achievement award from a film festival.

The Swiss imprisoned him for over two months before moving him to house arrest on $4.5 million bail at his chalet in the luxury resort of Gstaad.

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NCIS' Murray welcomes son

It's good news for NCIS star Sean Murray — the actor and his wife, Carrie, have welcomed a baby boy to the family. POPEATER.COM

Michaels hospitalized

Poison frontman suffers brain hemorrahage

Bret Michaels is in critical condition suffering from a brain hemorrhage, his publicist said Friday.

Joann Mignano confirmed a report on People magazine's website Friday that said the former Poison frontman was rushed to intensive care late Thursday after a severe headache.

The report said doctors discovered bleeding at the base of his brain stem.

Mignano said tests are being conducted and that no further information was available.

The 47-year-old reality TV star had an emergency appendectomy last week after complaining of stomach pains.

He said on his website that although the surgery "has taken its toll," doctors expected him to make a full recovery.

Michaels starred on the VH1 dating show Rock of Love and is a contestant on Donald Trump's NBC reality show, The Celebrity Apprentice.

Trump said in a statement Friday that he was "deeply saddened" to hear of Michaels' condition.

"He's a great competitor and champion, and I hope he will be fine," Trump said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The publicist of former Poison frontman and reality TV star Bret Michaels, left, has confirmed the 47-year-old is in critical condition.

Hantz is charged with battery

LEGAL Police in Louisiana say Survivor contestant Russell Hantz is charged with simple battery after being accused of shoving a woman to the ground.

Lafayette police say Hantz was booked into the parish jail early Friday after the incident in downtown Lafayette. The woman was not seriously hurt.

Officers on patrol nearby were flagged down and interviewed several witnesses. Hantz was released later in the day. It could not be determined whether he had an attorney.

Hantz was runner-up in the Survivor: Samoa series and is currently on the series Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains on CBS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

TV The Daytime Emmy Awards are returning to an old network home but in a new city. CBS announced Friday that it will broadcast the ceremony from Las Vegas this summer. The show had been held in New York for more than three decades and then moved to Los Angeles in 2006.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars (Same-day Tape)			Romantically	Castle An Arctic explorer dies.		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Annapolis ★★ (2006, Drama) James Franco, Tyrese Gibson.				Seinfeld	King	Cold Case
	291	383	27 PBS	Conver-KCTS	Antique Show	Antiques Roadshow (N) (CC)		American Experience "My Lai" (N) (PA) (CC)		A Necessary Journey (CC)		
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Open and Shut" (N)		24 (N) (PA) (CC)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Experience	Roots	Being Served	Keeping Up	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Antiques Roadshow (CC)	
	296	654	54 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Street Court	Cold Case
	298	653	55 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	58 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	59 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Embracing Bob's Killer (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) (CC)				Larry King Live (CC)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet	MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at San Francisco Giants.					Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NHL Hockey: Blackhawks at Predators			SportsCentre (CC)		30 for 30		Planet Speed	SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Destination Truth (CC)		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	(6:15) WWE Monday Night RAW (CC)				(:15) WWE Monday Night RAW With Michael Cole and Jerry Lawler. (CC)				
	417	406	55 SC	NASCAR	What's Deal?	Car Crazy	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame		Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR
	416	409	144 GLF	(6:00) Soccer		Off the Pitch	Gol TV News	Off the Pitch	Game Cap	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Survive This	Survive This	In Real Life Wrangle alligators.		Survive This	That's-Weird	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
	557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	53 TRE	Little Bear	Toopy	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin (CC)	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Recreat. Eden	Landscape	Empire of the Word (CC)		Robert Motherwell		Into the Night (CC)		Journey
	575	583	20 CMT	The Witches of Eastwick ★★★ (1987, Fantasy) Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon.						The Witches of Eastwick ★★★ (1987) Cher		
	570	580	24 MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	UR11		Secret Life of American Teen		Secret Life of American Teen		MuchMeg
	600	564	25 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Home to Flip	Bang, Buck	For Rent	Marriage	House
	615	520	31 A&E	Hoarders "Gail and Warren"		Runaway Sq.	Runaway Sq.	(:01) Intervention "Sarah"		(:01) Intervention "Gabe"		(:01) Hoarders
	628	584	32 SPKE	Jail (N) (CC)	Jail (CC)	Deadliest Warrior		DEA "Deadly Chase"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Trek: Voyager
	521	560	34 TLC	Ultimate Cake Off (N) (CC)		Little People	Little People	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Ultimate Cake Off (CC)		Little People
	616	522	35 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		A Trick of the Mind (2006, Suspense) Paul Johansson. (CC)				Misfits (N) (CC)		Survivors
	620	523	40 BVO	The Musical Brain (CC)		Law & Order (CC)		Without a Trace "Endgame"		Wordplay ★★★ (2006, Documentary) (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	The Millionaire Matchmaker		ET Canada	What	Real Housewives, Orange		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	Motor City Motors (N) (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		MythBusters "Car vs. Rain"		Motor City Motors (CC)		Dirty Jobs
	522	506	44 HIS	Dogfights "Guadalcanal"		Aftermath (CC)		Storm Planets "Cosmic Fire"		Cities of the Underworld		Ancients
	627	528	45 SPC	(6:00) Alien Siege ★★ (2005)		Comic-Con	Stargate SG-1 "Evolution"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)	
	294	650	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Lopez Tonight		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Re-Vamped (CC)		Wipeout (CC)		Wipeout (CC)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Prod. Parker
	603	561	52 FN	Pitchin' In	Glutton	Best Thing	At the Table	Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Top Chef Masters (CC)		Pitchin' In
	-	-	53 AMC	(5:00) Dances With Wolves ★★★★ (1990) Kevin Costner.				GoodFellas ★★★★ (1990, Crime Drama) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta. (CC)				
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Pete Correale: Things We Do		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:25) Just Buried (2007) (CC)		Penn & Teller	Gravity	Nurse Jackie	U.S. of Tara	Wild Things	American Teen ★★★ (2008)	
	581	566	101 MTV	My Life as Liz	After Show	MTV Live	Sex News	MTV Cribs	My Life as Liz	My Life as Liz	After Show	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Unscripted	Naked	Poltergeist: The Legacy		Nell ★★★ (1994, Drama) Jodie Foster, Liam Neeson. (CC)				
	-	-	103 MUL	My Queen	Immortal	Lying Low		Simply the	Pinoy Buzz	Wish Ko Lang!	News	Patrol World

Parents to be proud of

David Hasselhoff's ex-wife Pamela Bach has been sentenced to spend 90 days behind bars for drunk driving. A judge in L.A. sentenced the singer to 30 days in jail, but another 60 have been added on because her November arrest was a parole violation, TMZ.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

LiLo let-go and let-down

WONDER WHAT WONDERFULLY TRAGIC THING SHE'LL DO TO GET HER "CAREER" BACK ON TRACK? Lindsay Lohan has been dropped from the upcoming film The Other Side because she isn't bankable, a source close to the production tells TMZ.

The source says the film's finance folks were growing nervous about the actress and her spotty work record.

The film's writer/director, David Michaels, would only say, "Our team simply chose to move on from Lindsay and we'll soon be announcing a replacement."

Someone else doesn't trust Lindsay, although for different reasons.

Michael Lohan paid a visit to daughter house in L.A. Thursday, bringing along the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He came to check on his younger daughter, Ali, 16, who is staying with Lindsay, according to people.com.

After officers inspected the house and interviewed Ali, they left her with her older sister.

"I went to the police department concerned about Ali's welfare," Michael Lohan told Hollyscoop.com. "I wanted to check on Ali. I want to make sure she's okay. She's 16 and she doesn't belong there. She's a minor."

Of the incident, Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Nicole Nishida says: "Michael Lohan called the West Hollywood Sheriff's and was concerned about the welfare of his (teen) daughter who was with Lindsay Lohan — I don't know if they were living together. Sheriff's deputies went out to Lindsay Lohan's apartment and were given access by Lindsay Lohan and determined that for the (teen) as well as for Lindsay, there was no danger at all. A report was taken and that was it."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Want sauce with that?

CREATING LUNCH-LADY FANTASIES FOR TEENAGERS ACROSS THE CONTINENT Jennifer Lopez has "offered" herself up for a guest role on Glee, reports female-first.co.uk.

The singer-and-actress — who stars in new romantic comedy movie The Back-up Plan — admitted she plans to take on more funny roles in the future and has been in talks with Glee producers about having a cameo on the show.

She said: "I was like, 'Yeah, yeah whatever. I'm a huge fan. Whenever you want ... I'm good.' I kind of offered myself up."

When asked by U.S. TV talk show host Ellen DeGeneres this past Friday about when fans could expect to see her in the musical drama, Jennifer admitted the only issue was timing.

She said: "I sat down with show creator Ryan Murphy and we talked me doing something on Glee. We want to. We want to do it.

"They have it all mapped out for the next, like, eight episodes, whatever is airing right now. So he's like, 'Let's wait and do it really right when you do come on.'"

If she does appear on the show, it is thought the 40-year-old star would play a cafeteria lady at the fictional McKinley High, with her character being given a makeover from Chris Colfer's character Kurt Hummel.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tiger takes time to talk to his fans from the heart

MAY HAVE BEEN A GOOD IDEA TO TRY THAT WITH HIS WIFE A FEW MONTHS BACK Tiger Woods expressed his gratitude to his fans with a message on his website, saying, "I honestly didn't know what to expect from the fans, but they were absolutely incredible from Monday through Sunday. It was unreal.

"They definitely helped me mentally to be more comfortable out there. I was hoping for the best. To get that type of warmth is something I did not expect and will never forget."

Conspicuously absent from the statement was any word about support from Elin Nordegren. Woods didn't even mention his wife, who is currently in Sweden with their children.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Can't wait for swollen ankles

AND MONTHS OF NAUSEA While starring — and earning great reviews — as the young lover in the hit Broadway play Time Stands Still this spring, Alicia Silverstone tapped into her maternal side with a little help from her wardrobe for the play.

"Wearing a pregnancy suit was so much fun," the actress, 33, tells People.

"I loved the feeling of pretending to be pregnant and having little arms and legs and this big belly."

But it wasn't just the suit that got her thinking about motherhood.

"I've been wanting to have a baby since I was two years old — I'm destined to be a mother," says Silverstone, who will celebrate her fifth wedding anniversary with musician-husband Christopher Jarecki on June 11.

"I can't wait to be pregnant.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bralessness banned for Brit?

GLAD WOMEN FOUGHT SO HARD TO HAVE CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN BODIES — IT'S REALLY PAYING OFF Jamie Spears is working overtime to keep daughter Britney Spears on track, even going so far as to forbid her from going out without a bra, according to the Sun.

"Jamie's control over Britney's life is incredible ... he has banned her from leaving the house without a bra," a source tells the newspaper. Another source insists to TMZ that Jamie made no such ultimatum.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

Today, **KELLY CLARKSON** is getting royal treatment in Malaysia, **PARIS HILTON** has a new hobby, and **JIM CARREY** insists he isn't high.

@kelly_clarkson Police escorting us from airport-hotel, brings 2 questions to mind. Who do they think is n the car? How upset will they be when I get out?!

@ParisHilton Who likes scrap booking?

@JimCarrey Because I'm free thinking, some wonder if I'm stoned, but drugs though fun at times, have always brought my creativity 2 a grinding HALT!

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Three's company?

NOPE, THREE'S A CROWD. UM, WELL, YES Charlie Sheen has moved back into his home, and has reportedly brought his mistress with him, prompting Brooke Mueller to move out, according to Radar Online.

"She doesn't want to sleep in the same house with him she's so disgusted," a source says of Mueller.

"Their relationship is dead. Brooke wants a payout."

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

The Weather Network ©The Weather Network 2010

Today Cloudy 17°/10° | Tuesday Rain 80% 14°/9° | Wednesday Showers 60% 13°/9°

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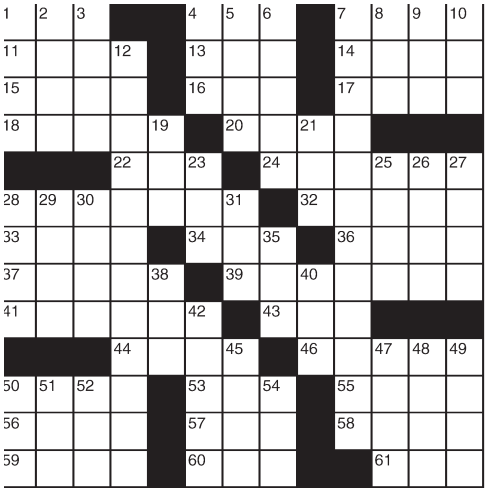

ACROSS

1 Prohibit
4 Harvest goddess
7 Heady potation
11 Moby Dick's pursuer
13 Joan of —
14 Taj Mahal city
15 Letter after alpha
16 Mauna —
17 Standard
18 In the midst of
20 Cattle drive item
22 Beaver's construct
24 Least fettered
28 Wrapped
32 Sacha Baron Cohen portrayal
33 State with certainty
34 Moo goo gai pan pan
36 Press
37 Parson's home
39 Gracefully tall and slender
41 " — and arrows of outrageous fortune"
43 Zero
44 Enthusiastic
46 Duck sauce ingredient
50 Wagon
53 Meadow
55 Regulation
56 United nations
57 Dog's doc
58 By word of mouth
59 Adam and Eve's third son
60 — out a living
61 Do sums

DOWN

1 Ali —
2 Throat-clearing sound
3 Org. HQ'd in Brussels
4 Erstwhile acorn
5 Get ready, for short
6 Muffler
7 Matador's aide
8 Freudian concept
9 Misstep
10 Aries
12 Lewis Carroll's "frumious" beast
19 Needle-fish
21 Sphere
23 Kitten's comment
25 Continental coin
26 Winter forecast
27 Danza or Curtis
28 Rotating parts
29 Elliptical
30 "—, vidi, vici"
31 Wall Street statistic, with "The"
35 Relatives
38 Early bird?
40 Back talk
42 Figure out
45 Nerdy sort
47 Emanation
48 Dressed (in)
49 Maintained
50 Couric's network
51 Cousin of 7-Across
52 Deteriorate
54 Chewed and swallowed

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		1				2		
			6		3			
3	7						4	6
		2	3		4	9		
9	5						7	2
		3	9		2	1		
2	8						9	1
			1		5			
		6				8		

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

■	B	R	I	D	E	■	G	R
P	L	A	C	E	R	■	R	A
L	A	W	Y	E	R	■	A	G
A	R	E	■	M	O	R	N	S
Z	E	S	T	■	R	U	N	■
A	S	T	I	R	■	T	I	M
■	■	■	N	I	P	■	E	A
H	A	N	G	D	O	G	■	N
E	R	I	E	■	P	E	P	■
L	A	C	■	B	E	E	R	S
P	R	E	P	A	Y	■	O	L
S	A	T	I	R	E	■	M	O
■	T	Y	P	E	D	■	O	B

O	M	■	9	3	2	1	4	8
A	L	■	5	1	4	7	2	6
N	D	A	6	7	8	9	5	3
K	A	Y	3	6	9	2	7	5
M	E	M	8	5	7	4	3	1
I	D	E	4	2	1	6	8	9
E	A	R	7	8	3	5	6	4
N	E	R	V	Y	2	9	6	8
D	O	S	E	■	1	4	5	3
T	I	S	■	9	2	8	6	7
A	G	E	■	7	8	3	5	6
O	U	R	N	S	■	4	9	2
E	Y	S	■	6	5	7	8	1

On the web

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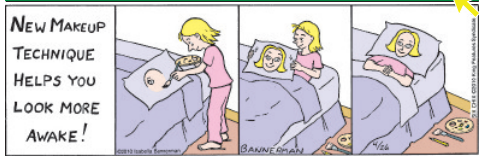

Metro Recipe of the Day

Broiled Shad with Mushrooms

INGREDIENTS:

700 g fresh (or frozen and thawed) shad, sole, or flounder fillets
1 tbsp butter or margarine, melted
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp finely chopped yellow onion
1 tbsp drained prepared horseradish
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp salt
1/8 tsp black pepper
1 tbsp butter or margarine
2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms

METHOD:

1. Preheat broiler. Rinse fish and pat dry. In small bowl, stir together 1 tbsp melted butter, lemon juice, onion, horseradish, Dijon mustard, salt, and pepper.

2. Place fish on lightly-greased broiler pan rack. Tuck under thin edges of fillets. Brush with lemon mixture. Broil 5 inches from heat 3 to 6 minutes or until fish flakes when tested with fork, brushing once with lemon mixture.

3. Meanwhile, in medium-size skillet, melt 1 tbsp butter over moderate heat. Add mushrooms and cook 3 minutes or until tender. Serve mushrooms on top of fish.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You may be inclined to fear the worst but you are also intelligent enough to know that it's pointless worrying about things you cannot control.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
It can be a mistake to try too hard to get along with people, not least because the more you try to please them the harder they are to please.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Something you have been working towards for many months will begin to bear fruit this week, making you glad you stayed the distance.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You can handle anything that life throws at you. Yes, anything. It does not matter how tough the test you face today you will come through.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You may feel obliged to commit yourself in some way, either to a family member or to a friend, but you really don't have to.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Keep a sense of perspective over the next 24 hours. You will see that a relationship won't collapse just because you have had a minor disagreement.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Routine matters are easy to ignore but can be difficult to put right if you let things slide too far. Take advantage of today's work-related influences.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
The week ahead will be highly productive for those born under the sign of the scorpion, but you still need to pace yourself sensibly.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
There may be something of a personal nature that you want to be getting on with but if others demand your attention you will have to put them first.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
At some stage today you will be struck by a wonderful idea and you must make a detailed note of it right away.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Will things get better in your life? Of course they will, starting from this very day, this very minute and this very moment.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Focus your energy in a single direction and don't let anyone distract you from what you know you should be doing.

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This day in history

1478: The Pazzi attack Lorenzo de' Medici and killed his brother Giuliano during High Mass in the Duomo of Florence.
1865: Union cavalry troopers corner and shoot dead John Wilkes Booth, assassin of President Lincoln, in Virginia.
1933: The Gestapo, the official secret police force of Nazi Germany, is established.
1965: A Rolling Stones concert in London, Ont., is shut down by police after 15 minutes due to rioting.
1986: A nuclear reactor accident occurs at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in the Soviet Union (now Ukraine), creating the world's worst nuclear disaster.

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